

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

135th Street School Auditorium, 801 W. 135th Street

Present: Pamela Thornton (Chairperson), Saira Cooper (Vice Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Joan Jacobs (Treasurer), Clyde Noguchi (District 2), Betty Hawkins (District 4), Llewyn Fowlkes (District 5), Marvin Bell (District 6), Janet Mitchell (District 7), Larry Morrison (District 8), Deborah Lee (Community Organization), and Eva Cooper-Pace (At-Large Representative)

1) Welcome/introductions: Chair Pamela Thornton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. She reviewed safety procedures in the event of an emergency. This was followed by the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence in memory of former Corresponding Secretary Neodros Bridgeforth.

2) Public Comment on non-agenda items: Amanda Bonilla of the California Artists Coalition of Los Angeles said that grant money is available to create murals and others types of art within the community. She will provide more information for a future Board or Committee meeting.

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: Thomas Soong introduced himself as the new Acting Senior Project Coordinator for the Harbor Area, replacing Stephen Box, who is now the Director of Outreach and Communications. On November 29, the Department will hold a legal roundtable for Harbor Area Neighborhood Council chairs/presidents or the official legal liaison so that they can ask questions of the City Attorney, such as how to count abstentions, how to handle various Board issues, etc. The meeting will be held at the Ascot Branch Library. The Funding Team will be holding a funding refresher. The Board of Neighborhood Commissioners will be discussing how to more equitably distribute the Department's funds to the 97 Neighborhood Councils. For example, a new Neighborhood Council (Hermon) was created earlier this year with only 5,000 stakeholders. And there is one other Neighborhood Council with 10,000 stakeholders (Elysian Valley), while most have 25,000 to 35,000 stakeholders. December 15 is the deadline to apply to be a representative for this equity study. Each Neighborhood Council can submit two names. The working group meetings will be in January and February. Civic U 2.0 is coming up at City Hall; Board members who have not previously attended are needed to apply for these workshops. The next Neighborhood Council Board elections will not be held until spring 2019. The deadline for submitting revised Neighborhood Council bylaws is April 15, 2018.

3) Board Business:

a. Use of 135th Street School: After some issues arose about access times for the 135th Street School Auditorium, Chair Pamela Thornton and District 4 Representative Betty Hawkins met with the principal Dr. Pablo Osorio. They were informed that per the LAUSD permit language, the Neighborhood Council has permission to use the space, but that the cost does not include the use of a custodian to set up or clean up. Also, the alarm must be set by 9:30 p.m. so therefore, all Neighborhood Council Board and stakeholders need to be out of the Auditorium before that time.

1) Permanent meeting time change: After discussion, it was moved by Saira Cooper, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 10-0-0 to approve changing the Board and General Membership meeting time from 7:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. until the issues relating to use of the 135th Street School Auditorium are resolved.

b. **Bylaws re-review and updates suggested by DONE:** The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment has asked that the HGNNC review the proposed changes to the Bylaws as re-formatted by DONE and also consider some other suggested changes. The HGNNC Bylaws Committee should meet in January so as to be sure to meet the new April 15 deadline for submission.

c. **Outreach/Website maintenance and updates:** Pamela Thornton said that she had discussed with Moore Business Results, which created and updates the HGNNC website, how charges are generated each month. An Outreach Committee meeting is needed to review possible alternate methods for updating the website and handling social media for the HGNNC as a way to reduce the monthly update fees.

d. **Upcoming activities:**

1) **Year-end celebration activity:** It was informally agreed to consider meeting in a restaurant as a social occasion during December.

2) **Participation in King Day parades?** A Board member had suggested participating in the Crenshaw area King Day Parade. However, the cost of entering is \$500 per organization and there would probably not be many HGNNC stakeholders present. Pamela will check on the criteria for participating in the Gardena M.L. King Parade along Van Ness Avenue from Serra High School to Rowley Park.

e. **Cancel or hold December 12, 2017 Board meeting?** After discussion, it was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 9-0-1 (Cooper-Pace) to hold the regular December Board meeting.

Council District 15: CD 15 Field Deputy John Jones III reported that he has been working on re-establishing having a crossing guard for the front crossing of 135th Street in front of the 135th Street School. He had a meeting with Tasha Cerda, the Mayor of the City of Gardena, regarding installation of a left turn signal at Vermont Avenue and 135th Street and that should happen soon. He encouraged the use of 311 to report all City of Los Angeles issues and to be sure to record the service request number for follow up. Using 311 via smartphone app, website or telephone creates a record of services needed and helps City staff direct resources. (Larry Morrison entered the meeting at 8 p.m.)

4) Approval of the revised 2017-2018 budget of \$44,100: Treasurer Joan Jacobs reviewed the revised budget which the Finance Committee drew up on October 14. Requestors for both the proposed Harvest Health Fair and April Spoken Word events withdrew their requests. Those funds were reassigned to cover the additional expenses charged by Moore Business Associates for updating the new website and posting items to the HGNNC Facebook page as well as for marketing incentives. The total budget amount includes the \$2,100 in 2016 Clean Streets LA Challenge award. However this money has still not actually been added to the HGNNC account as City Clerk Funding is still figuring out the mechanism to do that. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment has clarified that there are no restrictions on what types of things the Clean Streets grant money can be used for. It was moved by Saira Cooper, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 11-0-0 to approve the revised 2017-2018 budget of \$44,100.

5) Community Impact Statement (CIS) Support for Council File 17-0042 Ban on developer campaign contributions: After discussion and a suggestion for clarifying what a “recent” contribution from a developer would mean, it was moved by Eva Cooper-Pace, seconded by Saira Cooper, and passed 11-0-0 to approve writing a letter and filing a Community Impact Statement for this Council File.

6) Reports and updates:

a) Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (HANC) meeting of November 1, 2017: This item was tabled as no HANC Representative was present.

b) Halloween at Rosecrans Recreation Center on October 31: Board members Rey Paduani, Richard Lee, and Rosalie Preston attended this event and helped out as volunteers. Many children and parents attended.

c) Clean Streets LA Challenge events: Vice Chair Saira Cooper presented a list of the dates of the three scheduled Challenge events at Skirball Middle School, Environmental Charter Middle School, and Gardena Elementary School and asked Board members to help out on those dates.

d) LAPD Santa sleigh throughout HGNNC area: Senior Lead Officer Carmen Gutierrez is planning a route through all eight of the HGNNC Districts for a date later in December.

e) Ad Hoc Homeless Issues Committee: The Committee met on November 18 and reviewed a draft of the Homeless Resources card which the HGNNC plans to have printed and distributed to 10,000 households along with the January 23 General Membership meeting flyer and also post to the HGNNC website. The Committee is also planning to distribute backpacks and toiletries to homeless children in the HGNNC elementary schools in mid-February. (Janet Mitchell entered the meeting at 8:15 p.m.)

7) Consent Calendar (items 7a through 7c):

a. Approval of the October 10, 2017 Board minutes

b. Approval of the September Monthly Expenditure Report

c. Approval of the October Monthly Expenditure Report

Consent Calendar Item 7b was removed because the September Monthly Expenditure Report was approved at the October 10 Board meeting. It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Rosalie Preston, and passed 12-0-0 to approve Consent Calendar items 7a. and 7c

8) Announcements: District 7 Representative Janet Mitchell reported that she is organizing the 2nd Annual Diabetes Summit at Charity Mission Church on Sat. November 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

District 7 Representative Janet Mitchell reminded the Board that there will be a clean up/spruce up of the Community Garden located at the cul de sac end of 116th Place east of San Pedro Street on Fri. November 24 and Sat. November 25.

On December 23, there will be a Christmas parade throughout the District 7 area from 11 am to 12 noon, followed by a toy give way at Charity Mission Church from 12 to 1 p.m.

Rosalie Preston attended the November 13 City Hall hearing before the Los Angeles City Health Commission where the proposed City ordinance to limit oil drilling within 2,500 feet of residences and other sensitive uses was discussed. The HGNNC had previously voted to support the related Council File 17-0447. Two thirds of those present spoke in favor of the ordinance and the Commission voted to recommend its adoption to the City Council. Another meeting about this issue will take place on January 27, location to be determined.

9) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary